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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR
 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Tyson Y. Winarski on June 16, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 7, line 2, "ARB" has been changed to -- ARB (Arbitrate Primitive Signal) --; line 3, "arbitration" has been changed to -- an arbitration process --.

Claim 18, line 2, "LISM, LIFA, LIHA and LISA" has been changed to -- LISM (Loop Initialisation Select Master), LIFA (Loop Initialisation Fabric Assigned), LIPA (Loop Initialisation Previously Acquired), LIHA (Loop Initialisation Hard Assigned) and LISA (Loop Initialisation Soft Assigned) ---.

Claim 21, line 2, "ARB" has been changed to -- ARB (Arbitrate Primitive Signal) --.

Claim 22, line 2, "ARB" has been changed to -- ARB (Arbitrate Primitive Signal) --; line
2, "arbitration" has been changed to -- an arbitration process --.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alpus H. Hsu whose telephone number is (571)272-3146. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30-3:00) First Friday Off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571)272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AHH

/Alpus H. Hsu/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2619